## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 IO-13 /076 W

-----065294 040531Z /10

R 031529Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 566

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USINT BAGHDAD

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

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EO 11652: SPON UR US XF

SUBJECT: SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS CRITICAL OF SECRETARY'S ME TRIP

1. BEGINNING WITH TASS WASHINGTON COVERAGE OF SECRETARY'S JULY 31 PRESS CONFERENCE (PRAVDA, AUG. 1), SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS COVERAGE OF SECRETARY'S ME TRIP HAS REMAINED CRITICAL OF U.S. METHODS AND GOALS AND SKEPTICAL OF THE POSSIBILITY OF POSITIVE RESULTS. COVERAGE HAS BEEN LOW KEY, HOWEVER, AND HAS NOT BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY HARSH OR VITUPERATIVE LANGUAGE.

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2. COVERAGE OF SECRETARY'S JULY 31 PRESS CONFERENCE DID FAVORABLY DESCRIBE SECRETARY'S COMMENT ON USEFULNESS OF CLOSE U.S.-SOVIET CONTACT ON QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, AUG. 3 PRAVDA CARRIED TASS CAIRO ITEM WHICH DESCRIBED "LOCAL POLITICAL CIRCLES" AS POINTING OUT THAT WHILE U.S. SUPPORTED GENEVA CONFERENCE VERBALLY, IT DID NOTHING

TO INFLUENCE ISRAEL ON PLO ISSUE, AND, AS A RESULT, IT HINDERED THE CONVOCATION OF THE CONFERENCE.

3. SAME ARTICLE, TITLED "TO DETRIMENT OF PALES-TINIANS", DESCRIBED VANCE-SADAT ATTEMPT TO SOLVE PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION PROBLEM AND SAID SADAT, "HAVING FORGOTTEN DECISIONS OF RABAT SUMMIT MEETING, WHERE PLO WAS DECLARED SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF ARAB PEOPLE OF PALESTINE," FAVORED CREATION OFJORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN CONFEDERATION.

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS CRITICAL OF SECRETARY\'S ME TRIP

TAGS: SOPN, IR, US, XF, (VANCE, CYPRUS R)

To: STATE Type: TE

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